

House Bill 2510

Sponsored by Representative SCHOUTEN; Representatives GREENLICK, HERNANDEZ, KENY-GUYER, NOSSE, Senators MONNES ANDERSON, STEINER HAYWARD (Pre-session filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Designates October 9 of each year as PANDAS/PANS Awareness Day.
Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to PANDAS/PANS Awareness Day; and declaring an emergency.

3 Whereas Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcal In-
4 fections (PANDAS) and Pediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome (PANS) create the sudden
5 onset of Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD) in children, causing previously healthy and emo-
6 tionally adjusted children to experience severe anxiety and emotional disturbances; and

7 Whereas unlike in ordinary cases of OCD, which often manifest gradually over an extended pe-
8 riod of time, parents of children with PANDAS/PANS can often describe the exact day the child
9 suddenly began exhibiting the symptoms of full-fledged OCD; and

10 Whereas children with PANDAS/PANS tend to manifest some of the following symptoms: intense
11 fear or anxiety, tics, depression, behavioral regression, deterioration in school and learning per-
12 formance, sensory sensitivities and severely restricted food intake; and

13 Whereas PANDAS/PANS can dramatically affect the healthy outcome of a child's life; and

14 Whereas a conservative estimate of prevalence is 162,000 cases in the United States alone,
15 which would make PANDAS/PANS as common as pediatric cancer and pediatric diabetes; and

16 Whereas PANDAS/PANS is often misdiagnosed and undertreated, due in part to lack of aware-
17 ness of the condition among both the general public and the medical community; and

18 Whereas researchers have begun to substantiate that PANDAS/PANS involves a misdirected
19 autoimmune process that affects or weakens the blood brain barrier, and the inflammatory process
20 irritates a region of the brain that manages a variety of functions such as movement, cognitive
21 perception, habit, executive "logic-based" thinking, emotions and the endocrine system; and

22 Whereas treatment varies by the needs of the child, but it may include antibiotics, steroids,
23 intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG), plasmapheresis, cognitive behavioral therapy and anti-
24 inflammatory medications; and

25 Whereas the National Institute of Mental Health and other scientific and medical entities are
26 currently engaged in research and testing on how to most effectively treat PANDAS/PANS; and

27 Whereas it is imperative, as a matter of public health, that more be done to respond to
28 PANDAS/PANS at the local, state and national levels; and

29 Whereas children with PANDAS/PANS and their families would benefit from additional research
30 and increased awareness of this condition; now, therefore,

31 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted.
New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 **SECTION 1. October 9 of each year is designated as PANDAS/PANS Awareness Day.**

2 **SECTION 2. This 2019 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
3 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2019 Act takes effect**
4 **on its passage.**

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